

REMARKS

Status of the Claims

Claims 1, 4, 6, 7, 8, and 11-17 are now present in this application. Claims 1 and 6-8 are independent.

Claims 2, 3, 5, 9, 10, 18, and 19 have been canceled, and claims 1, 6-8, 11, and 12 have been amended. Reconsideration of this application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

Priority Under 35 U.S.C. § 119

Applicants thank the Examiner for acknowledging Applicants' claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119, and receipt of the certified priority document.

Drawings

Applicants thank the Examiner for indicating that the drawings are accepted.

Examiner Interview

Applicant wishes to thank the Examiner for the courtesies extended to Applicant's representative during the personal interview which was conducted on July 6, 2010. During the interview, Applicant's representative explained problems that are addressed by the present invention related to displaying images and text in Web pages, and that the present invention provides, for example, an enhancement to a browser or other rendering program to solve the problems. Applicant's representative explained that the present invention interprets images embedded in text in a manner that provides the embedded image with attributes comparable to the surrounding text.

The Examiner indicated that prior art emoticons anticipate the claimed invention, provided the teachings of the Hyon reference that explains that emoticons can include oriental ones and occidental ones. The Examiner pointed out that Baker teaches scaling icons to match font size. The Examiner expressed that Ostermann teaches assigning color to text such that the emoticon takes on the same color property (col. 11, lines 45-51).

The Examiner also indicated that adding style marks such as underlining, strikethrough, and highlighting with respect to the claimed registered image inserted in text may be patentable over the cited prior art. Applicant has amended the independent claims based on discussion during the interview.

Accordingly, reconsideration and allowance of the present application are respectfully requested.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 1 and 3-19 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Application Publication 2002/0077135 (Hyon) in view of U.S. Patent 6,546,417 (Baker) and further in view of U.S. Patent 6,990,452 (Ostermann). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

A complete discussion of the Examiner's rejection is set forth in the Office Action, and is not being repeated here.

With regard to the rejection of claims 1 and 6-8, while not conceding the appropriateness of the Examiner's rejection, but merely to advance prosecution of the instant application, Applicant respectfully submits that independent claims 1 and 6-8 have been amended to include the limitations related to claim 5 of "style mark attribute data", in order to place independent claims 1 and 6-8 into condition for allowance, along with dependent claims 4.

During the interview, the Examiner demonstrated conventional use of emoticons, which is the subject of the Examiner's cited prior art. Applicant's representative had expressed that emoticons are typically included as predefined symbols for the subject application program. Microsoft® Word, for example, can automatically convert keystroke entries into emoticon symbols. Alternatively, emoticon symbols can be chosen from a menu of symbols.

To the contrary, the present invention provides a solution to problems related to a combination of an image(s) and text. In the conventional application programs suggested by the Examiner, text and predefined symbols generally consist of attributes, such as size, bold, underline, strikethrough, and highlight. Even HTML provides tags for comparable attributes. For example, HTML provides tags for , <bold>, <U>, and <strike>. However, in each

case, the attributes apply to text and predefined symbols. In HTML, images are provided with tags such as height and width. Images, unlike symbols, are not predefined, and thus are not provided with attributes as in text. Also, the attributes of height and width for images do not coincide with the attribute size for text.

The present invention provides a viewer program for displaying text and a registered image in a manner that attributes of text are consistently rendered in the registered image such that changes made in text attributes are reflected in the registered image. For example, if the size of text is adjusted, the registered image is automatically adjusted in a consistent manner.

Furthermore, in the present invention, if underline or strikethrough are applied to text, the registered image is modified to add underline or strikethrough in a manner that the underline or strikethrough is continuous between the text and registered image.

The independent claims have been amended to cover the aspect of a style mark, such as underline and strikethrough, and particularly that a mark resembling the style mark attribute in text is displayed in a position that is substantially continuous with the placement of the style mark in the directly adjacent character(s).

Applicant submits that the closest prior art of Baker discloses a means for scaling the size of icon graphics in order to accommodate different size fonts. (Baker at col. 8). Ostermann discloses an example in which a portion of a sentence is underlined in order to indicate the extent that an emotion is applied. The emotion to the extent indicated is presented as an animated entity when the message is delivered (Ostermann at col. 11, bottom full paragraph).

However, the cited prior art, either alone or in combination, fail to disclose at least the feature recited in claim 1 as amended of,

“said display control portion modifies said registered image to include image data for a mark resembling said style mark attribute data of said at least one directly adjacent character, and said display control portion causes said display output portion to display a text containing said at least one directly adjacent character and the registered image scaled to substantially the same size and including the mark resembling the style mark attribute data in a position that is substantially continuous with the placement of the style mark in said directly adjacent character.”

The other independent claims recite associated function steps.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection is earnestly requested.

Conclusion

All of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicants therefore respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider all presently outstanding rejections and that they be withdrawn. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action, and as such, the present application is in condition for allowance.

In view of the above amendment, Applicant believes the pending application is in condition for allowance.

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact **Robert W. Downs**, Registration No. 48222 at the telephone number of the undersigned below to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

If necessary, the Director is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies to charge any fees required during the pendency of the above-identified application or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448.

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Respectfully submitted,

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